

U. B. C. E.

Supervision Committee of the United Brethren Christian Endeavor Society

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CORRESPONDENCE. All letters of inquiry, orders for supplies, reports, etc., should be addressed to some member of the SUPERVISION COMMITTEE as named above.

LITERATURE. THE CHRISTIAN CONSERVATOR contains practical helps on each topic each week, and should have a wide reading among U. B. C. E. members and workers.

SUPPLIES. THE U. B. C. E. HAND-BOOKS for organizers and new societies cost 5 cts. each; 50 cts. per dozen. TOPIC CARDS at the rate of \$1.00 per hundred. FLEDGE CARDS at the rate of 10 cts per dozen.

THE QUARTERLY COLLECTION should be sent promptly to the treasurer.

[This page is edited this week by Rev. R. A. Morrison.]

ENLARGING OUR WORK.

Sun., Oct. 23. Topic—How can we enlarge and improve our work?
Matt. 21: 17-22; Isa. 54: 2.

DAILY READINGS.

- M., Oct. 17. Abram's horizon. Gen 12: 1-9.
T., Oct. 18. David's aggressiveness. 2 Sam. 8: 1-18.
W., Oct. 19. Solomon's enlargement. 1 Kings 4: 29-31.
T., Oct. 20. Christ's bold program. Mark 16: 15-18.
F., Oct. 21. Antioch reaching out. Acts 11: 21-26.
S., Oct. 22. Paul's ambition. Rom. 15: 23-32.

PERTINENT SUGGESTIONS.

Give reasons for seeking always to improve. Ways in which we may measure ourselves. Improvement our society needs.

SOME BIBLE HINTS.

A fig-tree bearing no figs may continue to live and grow, but a Christian bearing no fruit is sure to wither away (Matt. 21: 19).

The mountains that we are to remove in these times are mountains of difficulty, of opposition, of sloth and indifference. They are more than Mt. Blanc (Matt. 22: 21.)

Our prayers that Christ promises to answer must, of course, be in harmony with his will; how otherwise could we dare to ask and desire an answer? (Matt. 21: 22.)

It is our tent here, our transient abode; but as we enlarge it by faithful service, we are enlarging our permanent home, our mansion in the skies. (Isa. 54: 2.)

SUGGESTIVE THOUGHTS.

The most obvious way for a society to enlarge its work is by enlarging its membership; and this is one of the best ways.

One way to enlarge our work for God is to enlarge our hearts. Great-Heart makes great plans.

Enlargement of work usually brings stimulus to and improvement of work. Emergencies make men.

To aim at one improvement is ten times better than to aim at ten improvements; but reach the ten before you get through.

A FEW ILLUSTRATIONS.

God's welling power is like the ocean—the larger the canal and reservoir, the more water will rush in and fill it.

When the moon is not waxing, it is waning, and so with the Christian; only, it is possible for the Christian to grow all the time.

No athlete would race well with two goals in view. Choose one point of improvement, and make for that alone.

A child is known to be growing by the fact that it outgrows its clothes. Has your society outgrown any of its customs and methods?

TO THINK ABOUT.

What can I do to make this the best year my society has ever had?

Am I ready for any work to which my society may call me?

Am I enlarging my spiritual life, that I may enlarge my outward work?

A CLUSTER OF QUOTATIONS.

Build thee more stately mansions, O my soul,

As the swift season roll!—Holmes.

The vendors of flowers in the streets of London are wont to commend them to customers by crying, "All a-blowing and a-going!" It would be no small praise to Christians if we could say as much of them.—Spurgeon.

Forget the things that are behind. That is not where you live. Your roots are not there. They are in the present.—Beecher.

Though we may have none of the splendid products of piety that impress the world, our Lord will reward us for downright faithfulness to place, opportunity, and promises.—Withrow. (Daily Companion.)

Enlarging Our Borders.

In "Tales of a Wayside Inn" Longfellow describes the theologian as one,

"Who studied still with deep research

To build the universal Church,—

Lofty as the love of God,

And ample as the wants of man."

This is our task. How high it towers! How extended its bounds! How such an undertaking challenges and arouses all that is noblest and best within us! As we appreciate its grandeur and nerve ourselves for the struggle, selfishness dwindles and drops from our lives.

The Christian Endeavor Society works on the suggestion of John Wesley that 'we will accept any one into our fellowship that has an earnest desire to escape hell fire.' So then a love for Christ is the core of the society; and the effectual showing of the love of Christ is the prime purpose of the society as well as of the church, only the society is not so stringent in its rules as the church. So long as a member of the society manifests love for the Savior and is true to the pledge he may be and is a member in good standing in the society without any questioning into church membership or other affiliations. That is, he does not necessarily need to be a member of the U. B. church in order to be a member of the U. B. C. E. society, and in regard to other affiliations it is held that the love of Christ and Christian instruction will cause members to leave off affiliations with any other organizations that are contrary to the teachings of Christ.

The society is not bound by any one form or plan of work. It may conduct its meetings as a Bible congress, or a heart to heart testimony meeting; or an old fashioned prayer meeting; or they may ask the pastor to give them a course in Christian doctrine in which questions and answers are given in advance for study. A prominent religious question of the day may be chosen, studied in advance and discussed in the society, anything may be used for a lesson or discussion so long as it is religious and has some bearing upon the work of saving the world or edifying the church. Merely literary or popular themes should not be allowed, as the work of the society must be first, last and all the time religious.

In the work of the society for the church we must never allow ourselves to become narrowed by prejudice nor broadened by worldliness. One danger is about as hurtful to the cause of Christ as the other. Prejudice is horn-of-ignorance or sin. What a fearful track of ruin it leaves behind it! Worldliness is the opposite of churchliness, is destructive of that which is best in us, while churchliness enhances our

love for Christ and the church, and ministers to our eternal need with spiritual things.

There is nothing in the long history of God's church on earth but that is good for an intelligent Christian, young or old, to study, and while we must not adopt those things of the past which have been hurtful to the church, on the other hand we need have no hesitancy in taking those things that have proven helpful and extremely expedient for the cause. In pursuance of this idea it would be a splendid thing for the society to take up questions pertaining to church government, discipline, the sacraments, doctrine, apostles, elders, deacons, the early apostolate, the modern superintendency, the extensive work of the church, the intensive work of the church, and hosts of other great subjects. Thus the society would prove a great blessing to the church and the cause of Christ by spreading vital knowledge among the young. Allow me to add that the supervision committee should be under the superintendency of the bishops and they should formulate such text books as are necessary to the end named, or should appoint some one to write them and give such texts their approval.

Thus, by paying rightful attention to the permanent monuments of the Christ's church, with our eminently successful evangelism, we can and should become one of the most successful and influential branches of the body of Christ. The opportunity is ours, to fail will bring us into condemnation.

Perhaps the most common cause of lagging in religious work is the lack of careful planning; or, usually, of any planning at all. The officers are chosen by hap-bazard nominations, the business meetings are allowed to run themselves, the committees undertake only what is forced upon them. On the contrary, the leaders of a successful society are thinking about it a large part of the time. They plan campaigns of work. They have programs for their business and committee meetings. They make things happen.

Wear the Christian Endeavor pin.

It is simple and inconspicuous.

It is a well-understood symbol.

It will introduce you to many valuable acquaintances.

It will be a standing (and moving) advertisement of our society.

It is the most widely used and recognized definite Christian symbol in existence.

Wearing it will remind you of your pledge, and keep you loyal to it.

Take Hold Anywhere.

During one of the great battles of the civil war a recruit, who had lost his company in the tumult of strife, approached General Sheridan, and timidly asked where he should "step in."

"Step in?" thundered Sheridan. "step in anywhere; there's fighting all along the line."

A heavy piece of machinery was being moved into a building by means of a block and tackle. Suddenly one of the ropes parted, and the machine began to slide backward. The two men who had charge of the work sprang to stay its progress.

"Give us a lift!" one of them shouted to a bystander.

"Where shall I take hold?" asked the man thus addressed, unmindful of the fact that there was not a second to lose.

"Grab hold anywhere!" yelled the mover.

It may be that we are in a field where we are unaccustomed to work, and are timidly asking where we shall "step in."—We may find our answer in the words of Sheridan, "Step in anywhere; there's fighting all along the line."—Selected.